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PART VII.

RECALL OF DR. CONSTANTIN THEODOR DUMBA, AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR AT WASHINGTON.

The Secretary of State to Ambassador Penfield.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Washington, September 8, 1915.

You are instructed to present immediately the following in a note to the Foreign Office:

Mr. Constantin Dumba, the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at Washington, has admitted that he proposed to his Government plans to instigate strikes in American manufacturing plants engaged in the production of munitions of war. The information reached this Government through a copy of a letter of the Ambassador to his Government. The bearer was an American citizen named Archibald, who was traveling under an American passport. The Ambassador has admitted that he employed Archibald to bear official despatches from him to his Government.

By reason of the admitted purpose and intent of Mr. Dumba to conspire to cripple legitimate industries of the people of the United States and to interrupt their legitimate trade, and by reason of the flagrant violation of diplomatic propriety in employing an American citizen protected by an American passport as a secret bearer of official despatches through the lines of the enemy of Austria-Hungary, the President directs me to inform your Excellency that Mr. Dumba is no longer acceptable to the Government of the United States as the Ambassador of His Imperial Majesty at Washington.

Believing that the Imperial and Royal Government will realize that the Government of the United States has no alternative but to request the recall of Mr. Dumba on account of his improper conduct, the Government of the United States expresses its deep regret that this course has become necessary and assures the Imperial and Royal Government that it sincerely desires to continue the cordial and friendly relations which exist between the United States and Austria-Hungary.

Lansing.

Ambassador Penfield to the Secretary of State.

[Telegram—Paraphrase.]

AMERICAN EMBASSY, Vienna, September 30, 1915.

Ambassador Penfield reports receipt of a note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria-Hungary replying to the Department's note of September 8, 1915.

The Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs states that he has learned that Mr. Dumba is no longer acceptable to the United States Government as Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, and inasmuch as cognizance of this information has been taken by the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, he has no doubt as to the conclusions to be drawn therefrom regarding Mr. Dumba's retention as Austro-Hungarian Ambassador in Washington. However, the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs can not refrain from expressing the opinion that correspondence of a diplomatic character, especially between a Government and its Ambassador, regardless of the manner of transmission, should not, as has been the case in the department's note referred to. be made the subject of an official criticism from a Government to whose attention this correspondence could come only by an accident, and for which it was not intended. The sincere desire expressed by the United States Government that the relations between the two Governments should, as heretofore, still retain their friendly and cordial character, is likewise entertained by the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and he avails himself of this opportunity to renew, etc.